

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is being submitted in response to the *Office Action* mailed December 6, 2007. Claims 1-35 are pending in the application. In the *Office Action*, claims 1, 3-7, 13, 17, 21, and 30-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,874,108 to Abramovici. Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Abramavici in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,003,150 to Stroud. Claims 2, 8-12, 14-16, 19-20, 22-29, and 32-35 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In the amendment above, Applicant has amended claims 2, 8, 9, 14, 19, 20, 22, 23, 32, 34, and 35 and cancelled claims 1, 3-7, 13, 17-18, 21, and 30-31. No new matter is added by these amendments and support for the amendments may be found in the specification and claims as filed.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and requests reconsideration of the claims in light of the amendments above and the remarks below.

I. Claims 1-35

Claims 1, 3-7, 13, 17, 18, 21, and 30-31 stand rejected. In order to expedite prosecution of this application, Applicant has cancelled all of these claims. Applicant reserves the right to pursue these claims in a continuing application. The rejection of the claims is now moot, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of these claims be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 8-12, 14-16, 19-20, 22-29, and 32-35 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates the indication that these claims would be allowable if rewritten and in order to expedite prosecution, claims 2, 8, 9, 14, 19, 20, 22, 23, 32, 34, and 35 have been amended and are now independent claims, including all of the limitations of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to these claims be withdrawn. Claims 10-12, 15, 16, 24-29, and 33 depend from one of these amended independent claims. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to these claims be withdrawn.

II. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable. A favorable Office Action is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions or suggestions of a nature necessary to expedite the prosecution of the application or to place the case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below

Date: 3/11/08

Respectfully submitted,



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